

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release: March 11, 2008

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## State Health Department Certifies Four North Dakota Hospitals as Level II, IV and V Trauma Centers

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health today announced the certification of four hospitals as Level II, IV and V trauma centers, according to Amy Eberle, state trauma coordinator for the Department of Health. The Level II trauma center is Altru Health System, Grand Forks, N.D. The Level IV trauma centers are West River Regional Medical Center, Hettinger, N.D.; and Mobridge Regional Hospital, Mobridge, S.D. The Level V trauma center is Northwood Deaconess Health Center, Northwood, N.D.

To receive a Level I, II or III designation, a hospital is visited by an American College of Surgeons site review team, after which the Department of Health is notified whether the hospital passed the review. To receive a Level IV or V designation, a hospital is visited by a state trauma site review team, which reports to the State Trauma Committee. The Committee reviews the site visit report, determines the hospital's designation, and reports to the Department of Health.

Level I through V trauma centers must be able to accept and provide services to major trauma patients. North Dakota can designate out-of-state trauma centers if they are within 50 miles of the North Dakota border. North Dakota currently has six Level II, one Level III, 20 Level IV and 12 Level V trauma centers, which must seek renewal of the designation every one to three years.

For more information, contact Amy Eberle, state trauma coordinator, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.1026.

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